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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
NATIONAL FOREIGN ASSESSMENT CENTER

28 August 1980

MEMORANDUM

Cuba-Nicaragua: Support for Central American Insurgencies

Summary

Nicaragua's Sardinistas are continuing to extend low-profile assistance to Salvadoran and other insurgents, particularly by facilitating transit and training. [REDACTED] reported the use of Nicaraguan government aircraft to fly Salvadoran guerrilla trainees to Managua from Costa Rica. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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Exemptions: (b)(1), (b)(3)

Nicaragua

We continue to receive reports of steady but low-profile Nicaraguan assistance to Salvadoran and other insurgents, particularly in regard to facilitating transit and training. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] two Sandinista Air Force DC-3s were used in early August to bring Salvadoran guerrilla trainees from a camp in eastern Costa Rica. Two top-ranking members of the FSLN--Lenin Cerna, head of state security, and Air Force chief Raul Venerio--were said to have been aboard the aircraft, which landed at the Air Force facility adjacent to Managua's Sandino Airport where the Salvadorans were reportedly hustled aboard three large busses and driven off to an unknown destination. [REDACTED]

On at least one occasion in early 1980, [REDACTED] the Nicaraguans evacuated a wounded insurgent by air from El Salvador to Managua for medical treatment. [REDACTED] comments that such evacuations [REDACTED] are undertaken only for senior Salvadoran revolutionary leaders. [REDACTED]

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